

There is a prevalent belief among SMSD's teachers that Olathe educators work less days. Let's take a look at the facts.

Article XII. E. 3. on page 53 of the SMSD Negotiated Agreement states that there are, "189 days to be designated as either professional development, teacher work day or student contact days... Two (2) of the 189 days are specifically scheduled to compensate for those school days when schools of the District may be closed due to hazardous driving conditions. In the event no such closing is necessary, or if it becomes necessary to close schools for one day, the extra day(s) will be canceled prior to the expiration of the school year."

When the two inclement weather days are eliminated, the SMSD contract calls for 187 work days for educators.

Appendix B on page 113 of the Olathe Negotiated Agreement states that the primary contract length for an educator is 187 days.

The facts show educators in both districts work 187 days. The difference is how those days are used.

Olathe's 2011-2012 calendar on page 112 of the Negotiated Agreement shows 170 student contact days scheduled. SMSD's calendar on page 62 of the Negotiated Agreement shows 180 scheduled student contact days.

While educators in both districts are contracted for the same number of days, SMSD's employees spend more days with students in the school.